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# NT 500 Concise Greek

Garwood P. Anderson

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# NT500, CONCISE GREEK

Fall 2003

Thursdays 2:30-5:15 PM

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## I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

An introduction to exegetical Greek for ministry. Particular emphasis is placed on inductive learning of exegetical Greek, the use of standard exegetical tools and of Bible study software, and linguistics.

## II. COURSE OBJECTIVES

Students successfully completing this course should be able to do the following:

- ❑ Know and use the Greek alphabet well enough to find words easily in alphabetized Greek language reference works;
- ❑ Easily read and pronounce Greek words;
- ❑ Know the basic dictionary glosses of the 18 most often used words in the Greek NT (those used over 1,000 times) and be able to decline Greek article and the personal pronoun;
- ❑ Know the basic characteristics and grammatical concepts of the Greek of the New Testament in order to be able to interpret basic grammar and syntax;
- ❑ Know and be able to use the most important standard reference works for Greek exegesis (esp. BDAG, word study tools, and critical commentaries), their appropriate applications and limitations;
- ❑ Use BibleWorks 5.0 software with proficiency;
- ❑ Perform a Greek word study with sensitivity to the basic issues of modern linguistics.

## III. TEXTBOOKS AND SOFTWARE

### A. Required

Black, David Alan. *It's Still Greek to Me: An Easy-to-Understand Guide to Intermediate Greek*. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Baker, 1998.

Cotterell, Peter and Max Turner. *Linguistics and Biblical Interpretation*. Downers Grove, Ill.: InterVarsity Press, 1989.

Douglas, J. D., ed. *The New Greek-English Interlinear New Testament*. Wheaton, Ill.: Tyndale, 1993.

BibleWorks 5.0. Owning your own copy of BibleWorks is nearly essential—and a very good investment for future courses and ministry. Although the library has the program loaded on every

computer, many students are not on campus enough to get their work done here during the hours the library is open.

## B. Recommended

Bauer, David R. *An Annotated Guide to Biblical Resources for Ministry*. Peabody, Mass.: Hendrickson, 2003. This is probably the best and most up-to-date bibliographical survey available—and by one of Asbury’s own!

Bauer, Walter and Frederick W. Danker et al., *A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature*. 3d ed. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2000. Though not cheap, this is a “must own” for serious students of the NT. Note that for a hefty fee (\$125, the same as for the print copy) the complete module of BDAG is available for Bible Works 5.0.

Mounce, William. *Greek for the Rest of Us*. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Zondervan, 2003. This book is another version of what we are trying to accomplish with this class. Students might benefit from the reinforcement of a complementary approach and the user-friendly format.

## IV. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

### A. Requirements

1. **Class Attendance and Participation.** The material in this course is cumulative, and we compress a week of material into one meeting per week. Students cannot expect to keep up with sporadic attendance. *Students missing more than two of the fourteen class meetings will not be eligible for a passing grade.*
2. **Course Reading.** Although no credit is given specifically for course reading, students will be held accountable for what is assigned by means of the weekly quizzes. Most of the reading material for this course is assigned to be read twice, once before the class discussion and once following. In the course schedule students are instructed to “read,” “study,” and “review.” The choice of words is significant. “Read” means to read carefully for basic *comprehension*; “study” means pore over toward the goal of *mastery*; “review” means re-read and re-study for long-term *retention*.
3. **Weekly Quizzes (36% = 12 @ 3%).** Students will have a weekly quiz on the material studied, including both the reading material and selected Greek vocabulary/morphology memorization. Every quiz will have a significant cumulative element (up to 33% of the questions), so that what *has* been learned must *stay* learned. Each worksheet will have a list of the items that must be mastered for the quiz the following week. Once those terms and concepts are “in play” they remain fair game for the rest of the semester. Unless students are instructed otherwise, *all of the “Key Terms” at the conclusion of each chapter in SGTM are fair game for quizzes.*
4. **Weekly Assignment Worksheets (36% = 12 @ 3%).** Students will complete 12 worksheets on various items of Greek grammar.
5. **Take Home Final (28%).** A thorough lexical and syntactical analysis of a selected NT passage. The final will be given to students on November 21, leaving three weeks for its completion.
6. **Note:** Late work will receive 75% of the credit earned in the assignment.

**B. Grading Scale (descriptions from *ATS Catalog*, 28)**

94-100	= A	“Exceptional work: surpassing, markedly outstanding achievement of course objectives”
92-94	= A-	
90-92	= B+	
86-90	= B	“Good work: strong, significant achievement of course objectives”
84-86	= B-	
82-84	= C+	
77-82	= C	“Acceptable work: basic, essential achievement of course objectives”
75-77	= C-	
73-75	= D+	
70-73	= D	“Marginal work: inadequate, minimal achievement of course objectives”
<70	= F	“Unacceptable work: failure to achieve course objectives”

## V. COURSE OUTLINE

Date	Class Topics	Read/Study/Review	Homework	Quiz
9/4	Course Introduction Succeeding in Greek Greek Alphabet/Transliteration Pronouncing Greek (accents, diacriticals, diphthongs) Punctuation Writing Greek	****	****	****
9/11	General Review of (mostly English) Grammar. General Introduction to BibleWorks	<u>Study</u> SGTM, chaps 1-2; <u>read</u> SGTM chap 14.	Worksheet #1	Quiz #1
9/18	Introduction to nouns, adjectives and the Greek case system	<u>Review</u> SGTM, chaps 1-2; <u>study</u> SGTM chaps 3-4.	Worksheet #2	Quiz #2
9/25	The Greek case system (cont.) The Greek article	<u>Review</u> SGTM chaps 3-4; <u>study</u> SGTM chap 6.	Worksheet #3	Quiz #3
10/2	Introducing the Greek Verb (tense/aspect, voice, mood, person and number)	<u>Review</u> SGTM chap 6 <u>study</u> SGTM chap 8.	Worksheet #4	Quiz #4
10/9	Greek Verbal System (cont., esp. tense and aspect)	<u>Review</u> SGTM chap 8; <u>study</u> SGTM chap 9.	Worksheet #5	Quiz #5
10/16	The Infinitive and the Participle	<u>Review</u> SGTM, chap 9; <u>study</u> SGTM chap 10-11.	Worksheet #6	Quiz #6
10/23	The Participle (cont.) Pronouns and Prepositions	<u>Review</u> SGTM, chaps 10-11; <u>study</u> SGTM chaps 5 and 7	Worksheet #7	Quiz #7
10/30	Pronouns and Prepositions (cont.) Conjunctions, Adverbs and Particles Conditionals	<u>Review</u> SGTM chaps 5 and 7; <u>study</u> SGTM 12.	Worksheet #8	Quiz #8
11/7	Conditionals (cont.) Greek Clauses and “Phrasing”	<u>Review</u> SGTM chap 12; <u>study</u> SGTM chap 13.	Worksheet #9	Quiz #9
11/14	“Phrasing” (cont.); Thinking about Language and Meaning An Introduction to Lexical Semantics	<u>Review</u> SGTM chap 13; <u>Read</u> L&BI chaps 1-3	Worksheet #10	Quiz #10
11/21	“Phrasing” (cont.); Lexical Semantics (cont.); Textual Criticism	<u>Read</u> L&BI chap 4-5	Worksheet #11	Quiz #11
11/28	Reading week. No class.			
12/4	Lexical Semantics (cont.); A Research Agenda for Exegesis: What do I need to know? Non-literal language and the Problem of Meaning	<u>Read</u> L&BI chaps, 9	Worksheet #12	Quiz #12
12/8- 12	Finals Week. No Class Meeting. Final Paper is due December 11			